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# VALLEY GAY PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY & BERKS COUNTY'S  
GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER  
COMMUNITY OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 10 NO. 3

APRIL 2007

## LOVE! VALOUR! COMPASSION!

MARCH 30 -  
APRIL 21



**DON'T  
MISS  
THE  
GLV  
PRIDE  
FUND-  
RAISER  
AT  
CIVIC  
ON  
APRIL  
4TH**

Read  
all about it in  
Steve Libby's  
column on  
page 7 & on  
page 2.

### THE PDN PHOTO PROJECT - 100 SAME-SEX COUPLES: FACING INEQUALITY

...will be featured in the lobby of Civic Theatre's 514 for  
the run of Love! Valour! Compassion! Don't miss this  
fantastic GLBT theme play with a cast to die for!

## ART OPENING BENEFITTING

THE "PA DIVERSITY NETWORK  
PHOTO PROJECT --

**100 SAME-SEX COUPLES:  
FACING INEQUALITY"**

APRIL 28TH, 6:00pm - ?

GABELLINI DESIGN 610-439-3610  
1152 ALLEN STREET, ALLENTOWN

### GABELLINI ART SHOW WILL FEATURE ARTISTS:

Rafael Canizares, Dianne Poindexter, Peter Lewnes, Karl  
Howard, Liz Bradbury, Elizabeth Patterson and the PDN Photo  
Show - 100 Same-sex Couples: Facing Inequality.  
Sales from opening night will benefit PDN's Photo Project and  
other programs. Read more about the show on page 9.

## GLV PRIDE SETS NEW DATE FOR FESTIVAL AUGUST 19TH



See more on  
page 7.

### IMPORTANT LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL UPDATE

See page 11

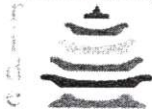
### MCCLV EASTER SERVICE AND PRE-SERVICE EGG HUNT

See more on page 5.

### HAVEN PROM DATE SET

Haven GLBTA Youth Group annual Prizm Prom  
from 7 to 11 PM on Saturday, May 5, 2007 at the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley,  
424 Center Street, in Bethlehem. Tickets are \$10  
per person. Read more on page 3.

### Reading



Read about Reading Pride's  
fundraisers and Festival set  
for July 16th.

**GLBT Infoline**  
Greater Lehigh Valley

610-HELP-123

(610-435-7123)

**PDN'S NEWLY UPDATED  
WEB SITE IS PACKED  
WITH INFORMATION  
WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG  
ADD OR UPDATE YOUR ORGANIZATION  
OR BUSINESSES LISTING TODAY  
JUST FILL OUT THE SIMPLE E-FORM**

**BECOME A PDN MEMBER TO RECEIVE THE VALLEY GAY PRESS IN THE MAIL, SEE PAGE 10.**



## What's That About?



Readers write or email  
"What's That About?"  
editor Liz Bradbury with  
questions about GLB issues.



**Dear WTA:** So what's the latest on Penn State women's basketball coach Rene Portland, who allegedly discriminated against lesbian players? **Signed, Girl's B-Ball Fan**

**Dear B-Ball Fan,** Coach Rene Portland has resigned from Penn State. A law suit had been filed against Portland by former player Jennifer Harris, who alleged that Portland had discriminated against her, presuming she was a lesbian (Harris says she is not) and against her due to race.

In April 2006, Penn State reprimanded Coach Portland and fined her \$10,000 after an internal investigation found Portland had created a "hostile, intimidating and offensive environment" for Harris based on what Portland perceived to be her sexual orientation. The investigation did not find evidence that Harris had been discriminated against because of race. During all this, other former players came forward from teams that played as early as 1981, saying that Portland had discriminated against them due to sexual orientation.

In an earlier What's That About article, I reported that when I was a college teacher in Western New York in the 1980s, a woman basketball player told me she had experienced anti-gay discrimination from Portland that was so severe, she'd left Penn State and had never played on a basketball team again.

PSU forced Portland to take sensitivity classes in the early 1990s and PSU faculty voted to institute a nondiscrimination policy that included sexual orientation at that time. The lawsuit with Jennifer Harris was settled this February, 2007, though the terms were not disclosed.

Portland has never admitted or accepted any blame, instead, she called the investigative process flawed, and ignored the findings.

Mechelle Voepel of The Kansas City Star, who is a regular contributor to ESPN.com said in response to the Portland resignation: The rotting toothache that Penn State women's hoops had become can now, we all hope, start to heal. LB

## LOVE! VALOUR! COMPASSION!

THE CIVIC THEATRE 514 PRESENTS: LOVE!

**VALOUR! COMPASSION!** April 4th is Pride Fundraiser Night for Love! Valour! Compassion! This special night performance benefits Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley. The cost is \$25 and includes a wine and cheese reception. There will also be an auction of a signed poster from the writer of the play, Terrence McNally. In addition, Pennsylvania Diversity Network will be featuring the PDN Photo Project "100 Same-Sex Couples: Facing Inequality" which is on display at the theatre. The wine and cheese reception starts at 7:00 pm, with wine donated by the Stonewall and Moose Lounge. The show starts at 8:00 pm.

**The Plot:** At a beautiful country farmhouse, eight men hash out their passions, resentments and fears over the course of three summer weekends. By turns hilarious and tragic, celebratory and cruel, this thoroughly engaging play will leave you hopeful and heartbroken all at once.

The play will run through Saturday, April 21. Tickets: 1st Fri/Sat: \$22, Wednesdays: \$20, Thursdays: \$20, Friday: \$24, Saturday: \$24, Sunday: \$22. Students & Seniors: \$3 off most days. \$5 on Sundays. ORDER TICKETS: <http://www.civictheatre.com/sales> or 610.432.8943

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## SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



### HIGH SCHOOL REUNION TALES

Recently my high school class got organized and held a reunion. I graduated from Allen High, home of the fighting canaries, in 1988 and it took 18 years to get it together. As I drove to the Iron Lakes Country Club I wondered who would be there. Out of a class of 609 I think about 150 folks attended. There were some folks with whom I've kept in touch and we sat together for dinner. Then the time came to see who else showed up.

I looked around and did see alot of familiar faces. I saw my friend Jill and I reminded her about the time she was walking back to class with our friend Georgia. Our principal was escorting a group of visiting Japanese educators through the school and they were taking pictures of everything. Of course Georgia and Jill stopped and started posing like supermodels next to the lockers.

I barely recognized Jared. He used to slouch behind me in English class. Maybe it was because we had class right after lunch or maybe it was Geoffrey Chaucer but he could never sit up straight.

Then I outed myself to Katey. We had been boyfriend/girlfriend for about three minutes in sixth grade. Back then I asked her to go out with me, certain that an attractive girl like her would say no and I could tell my friends I had tried and thus fit into heterosexual society. She shocked me by saying yes, so I immediately broke up with her. I told her the whole story, I think she only vaguely remembered, but she thought it was very sweet.

The big disappointment of the night was that save one, I was the only 'mo there. I know at least four other gay men and two lesbians who graduated with me. At the end of evening the organizers announced plans for a twenty-five year reunion. Now I'm on a mission for a 1988 gay rank and file round up.

Stay warm Chippmunk readers!

## GLV PRIDE FESTIVAL WILL BE AUGUST 19

The board of directors for Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley (Pride GLV) has decided that Pride in the Park 2007 will be held on Sunday, August 19, 2007 from 12 pm to 6 pm at Cedar Beach Park in Allentown. This decision was difficult and there are various reasons for the change. However, the board says it felt that this is an encouraging change and it will help ensure the success of the festival. Pride hopes the community will share its vision.

The main reason for the change in date is that the City of Allentown had committed to holding SommerFest through the entire June 14-17 weekend at Cedar Beach Park last fall. Since Pride GLV was in a state of reorganization, there was talk about not having a Pride in the Park 2007. The city and SommerFest organizers had no choice but to move forward with their plans for a June festival. They welcomed Pride to have the festival on its usual Sunday in June and share the park, but it seemed in the community's best interest to have PITP on another date. The date change will avoid confusion between the two festivals' entertainment, vendors and activities, as well as alleviate space restrictions. Another reason for the date change is that it is often difficult to schedule entertainment for PITP due to many other cities having Pride events during the same month. The board thought that this may be an opportunity to not compete with other festivals and secure the best entertainment at an affordable rate. The board also realizes that Pride is something that is celebrated year round and not just in the month of June. There are plenty of events during the spring and early summer months - what a great way to continue that momentum by having a Pride festival late in the season.



# HOT NEWS

## HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQI youth ages 14 - 20. Adult facilitator volunteers are needed for Wednesday evening meetings. Contact Pete Pellegrino ,havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or visit Haven's Web page at [www.uuclvpa.org/haven](http://www.uuclvpa.org/haven).

## GLOSS EVENTS

The Gay & Lesbian Organized Sports Society (GLOSS) offers indoor & outdoor activities throughout the year. New GLBT and allied members are always welcome regardless of skill level.

During the cold months GLOSS offers bowling, racquetball and Pinochle. The schedule is as follows:

**Bowling:** the 2nd Friday of the month, starting at 8:45pm at the Playdrome in Allentown.

**Pinochle:** the 2nd Saturday of the month, starting at 7:00pm at the Moose Lounge, 28 N. 10th St., Allentown.

**Racquetball:** every Thursday and Saturday, starting at 7:00pm at the Allentown Racquet Club.

GLOSS has an email newsletter that will keep you updated on all their events. To sign up for the newsletter go to the website.

GLOSS is always looking for people willing to be activity leaders. If your favorite activity is not listed, they will help you organize an event or outing by promoting it in the newsletter and website: [www.gloss.org](http://www.gloss.org), or email: [Info@gloss.org](mailto:Info@gloss.org).

## GLOSS AT THE WOODS

GLOSS has reserved 4 campsites at The Woods Campground for the "Summer Games" weekend. They are sites 69 thru 72. If you would like to share these sites, please let GLOSS know ASAP by emailing [Info@gloss.org](mailto:Info@gloss.org). This event takes place 27-29 July, 2007. Here's the description: "Show your ability and teamwork in the Wacky Olympics competition, volleyball tournament, and Homemade Raft Race on the lake! Prizes for the winning athletes! Show off your athletic physique. The Woods Campground is clothing optional.

**LIST YOUR ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS RESOURCE AT [WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG](http://WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG)**

## HAVEN PRIZM PROM MAY 5, AT UUC

HAVEN, the Lehigh Valley's youth group for gay, lesbian, transgender, questioning, and allied youth, is hosting its annual Prizm Prom from 7 to 11 PM on Saturday, May 5, 2007 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, 424 Center Street, in Bethlehem. Tickets are \$10 per person. This elegant, discrimination-free alternative to the traditional high school prom is open to all gay, lesbian, transgender, questioning, and allied youth ages 14-20. Teachers and community leaders will chaperone the event, which will feature food, fun, and dancing. Anyone wishing to volunteer assistance or make a donation should contact Pete Pellegrino at [havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com) or visit [www.uuclvpa.org/haven](http://www.uuclvpa.org/haven). For more information on the prom, check out [www.prizmprom.com](http://www.prizmprom.com).

## RAINBOW AA

Rainbow AA meetings Monday and Thursdays, 7:30pm 2nd flr, Church of the Mediator -1620 Turner St. Allentown, AA Hotline: 610-882-0558.

## ALVIN H. BUTZ PRESENTS BETTY BUCKLEY AT CIVIC

Broadway star Betty Buckley will perform live in concert at Civic Theatre of Allentown, Friday, May 18, in a special Civic fundraising event. The legendary star of stage, film, and television, made famous by the Broadway favorite "Memory" from the hit musical "Cats," will take the Civic Theatre stage at 8 p.m.

Alvin H. Butz, Inc., presents the special event, which will help raise capital funds to renovate Civic's 1928 art deco 19th Street Theatre.

Tickets went on sale March 1. Fewer than 500 concert tickets will be available. Benefactor tickets, priced at \$150, will include priority seating and an event reception following the concert. Regular admission is \$75. Tickets are available online at [civictheatre.com](http://civictheatre.com) or from the Civic Theatre box office, at (610) 432-8943.

## OBGYN SPEAKS AT TEJAS

Tejas - the group for GLBTA women that meets Wednesdays at MCC from 7pm to 8:30pm, welcomes Dr. Trish Maran, who will be speaking on OBGYN issues on April 18th. All women are welcome.

## CIVIC 2007-08 WILL FEATURE THE FULL MONTY, TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, TITANIC

Civic Theatre celebrates its 80th anniversary this fall by embarking on an ambitious 2007-08 Mainstage season. The four Mainstage productions will include two musicals, "The Full Monty" in October 2007, and "Titanic" in June 2008; as well as the nonfiction drama "Tuesdays with Morrie," based on Mitch Albom's hugely popular book, presented in Theatre514 in April 2008; and Civic's annual holiday celebration, "A Christmas Carol," in December 2007. Civic Theatre: (610) 433-8903.

## LVGMC REHEARSES FOR "THE ACT OF LOVE"

The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus will present its last concert of the 2006-2007 season on June 2nd, 2007. Rehearsals start at 7 PM on March 27 at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Bethlehem, PA.

Anyone tenor or bass voiced is invited to join Artistic Director J. Clinton Miller and the LVGMC celebrate in song "The Act of Love". For more information, contact the LVGMC at 610-366-3320 or visit [www.lvgmc.org](http://www.lvgmc.org).

## RELAX EXERCISE CLASSES

PA Diversity Network is working to set up a series of stretching/relax/exercise classes based on the Feldenkrais model. These exercises, which increase mobility, release tension, and ease aches and pains are easy to do and require no special equipment. They do not even require a change of clothing. The classes will be held at MCCLV in Allentown. If you are interested in taking part in these classes, call Melinda Kohn at 610-967-5219.

## NEW PLAY FROM OMICRON

From the creative team that brought you last Fall's "Shakespeare's R&J", The Omicron Theatre Project presents the World Premiere of J.C. Lee's newest play "The Nature Line" at the Theatre Outlet in Allentown, PA. Production Dates: August 16th - Sept. 1st. For all the latest information about this production or how you can get involved, please visit Omicron's Official Website: [www.geocities.com/omicrontheatreproject](http://www.geocities.com/omicrontheatreproject)! Mark your calendars, this is an event not to be missed!



## GLORA

GLORA (the Gay and Lesbian Organization of the Reading and Allentown areas) is a non-profit social group for adult men and women, both singles and couples. GLORA's activities range from potlucks, to game nights, bowling, movie nights, and holiday celebrations. Events are listed in a monthly newsletter that you will receive as a member. Some are family events that include children and some are just for adults. Members of GLORA may host events at their home or at an outdoor location. Hosting events is not mandatory to be a member. Membership: \$10 per household, annually. Web site: <http://glora.1colony.com> email: [GLORA@dejazzd.com](mailto:GLORA@dejazzd.com) or write: GLORA, PO Box 414, Fredrick, PA 19435.

**GLORA Events:** Sat April 14th - The Menopausal Maniacs Live in Concert - The Lehigh Valley's All Female Baby Boomer's Cover Band: Call 484-754-7144 for more info. Sat April 21st - Train trip to Philadelphia Deadline for tickets, April 18th. Call 610-754-7144 for info.

## PFLAG NEWS

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, [www.eastern-pa-pflag.org](http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org). e-mail: [info@eastern-pa-pflag.org](mailto:info@eastern-pa-pflag.org). Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 1st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 3rd Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234. Pottsville - 3rd Thursday at 6:30PM, Terrence Reiley Community Building, 216 N. 12th Street, Pottsville: 570-624-3151 or e-mail [pflagpottsville@hotmail.com](mailto:pflagpottsville@hotmail.com).

### Meeting Dates:

**Allentown** - April 3, May 1, June 5, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4

**Monroe** - June 20, September 19, December 19

**Reading** - April 17, May 15, September 18, October 16, November 20

## READING PFLAG (BERKS COUNTY)

Meets at 6:30, PM on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month, September through May at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading & Berks County, 416 Franklin St. Reading. For information or to confirm scheduled meetings call: 610.858.9278. For more PFLAG information call the Help Lines: 610-967-5219, [www.eastern-pa-pflag.org](http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org) or e-mail: [info@eastern-pa-pflag.org](mailto:info@eastern-pa-pflag.org).

## LIST YOUR ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS RESOURCE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

## LGBTQA TEEN GROUP SPECTRUM IN READING

Planned Parenthood of North East Pennsylvania (PPNEP) founded Spectrum thanks to a grant by the Diversity Alliance Fund of Berks County Community Foundation. Since its inception last June, the number of teens attending Spectrum's meetings has grown exponentially.

Spectrum is open to LGBTQ teens and their allies ages 14-18. Meetings are held every Wednesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on the second floor of PPNEP's Reading medial center.

Spectrum seeks adult volunteers to assist with the program. Criminal background checks, training and references are required. If you'd like to volunteer, contact sexuality educator and manager of Spectrum, Amber Brown at 610-376-0137.

## SYLVIA COMICS

SYLVIA comic artist and author Nicole Hollander has graciously agreed to let Valley Gay Press feature Sylvia comics. Grateful thanks to Nicole for this swell opportunity! For more check the Sylvia website: [www.nicolehollander.com](http://www.nicolehollander.com).

## SYLVIA BY NICOLE HOLLANDER

## PDN LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 31 through April 23** - The PDN Photo Project will be on exhibition at the Civic Theatre in Allentown in conjunction with the presentation of the play Love! Valour! Compassion!

**April 28** - GLBT Art Show opening, with PDN Photo Show at Gabellini Design

**April 28 - May 19** - PDN Photo Project will be at Gabellini Design

**May 20** - Fundraiser for Reading Pride at the Stirling Guest Hotel in Reading, PA. The PDN Photo Project will be featured at this event.

**Week of June** - PDN Photo Project will be on exhibition in Central Susquehanna area PA, hosted by the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender and Allied People of the Central Susquehanna Valley (GLBTACSV).

**July 15, 2007** - PDN will participate in Reading Pride's Pride Festival.

**August 19** - PDN will participate in Greater Lehigh Valley Pride's Pride in the Park Festival.

**Mid October, 2007** -- Bingo! The Community had a great time at our Bingo event in 2006 and we'll be doing it again in 2007. If you represent a business, please consider donating a Bingo prize.

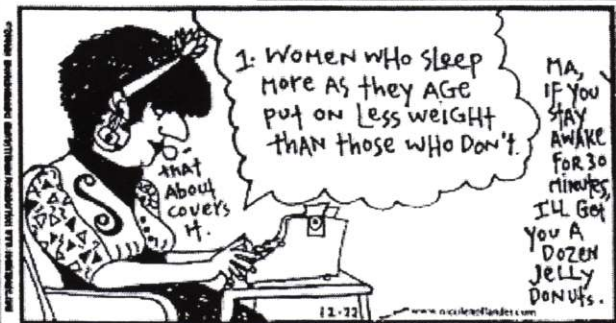
**October 13, 2007** - PDN will have a team in the Woman's 5k Race to fight Breast Cancer, and will host a brunch afterward at the PDN offices. All women in the GLBTA community are encouraged to participate. You know you've been meaning to do this for years...Be on our team and we'll make it easy and fun for you to do.

**16, 17, 18 November** - PDN Holiday Art Show at the PDN Gallery in Allentown

**Mid December 2007** - Rainbow Families Christmas Party for GLBTA families with children. This event is co-sponsored by MCLLV and will be held at the Church.

## BERKS GAY MEN'S GROUP

BCGMSG holds social events for singles and couples two to three times a month for gay men from Berks County and surrounding counties. For more info email [berksgmsg@aol.com](mailto:berksgmsg@aol.com), web site at: [WWW.BERKSGMSG.COM](http://WWW.BERKSGMSG.COM).





# SOOZ VIEWS 5

By Sue Sneeringer

## AFTER-OSCARS

The Oscars are done and taking the evening for what it is, not what a lot of folks think it should be, we thought it was a fun show this year. It amazes me how much time is devoted to trashing the Oscar telecast every year. Too long. Boring. Hollywood at its self-indulgent worst. Too many montages, blah, blah, blah. Like writers who paint all Philadelphia sports fans with one long "they booed Santa Claus" brush, it's lazy reporting. That's what the Oscars are EVERY year and what they will ALWAYS be! The sports comparison is apt, though. No annual affair is as long-winded, over produced or SELF-IMPORTANT as the friggin' SUPER BOWL. But I would no more begrudge football fans their big day than I would pull the red carpet out from under the movie people. And, please, too many montages??? Give me at least another twelve or fifteen! You can toss in a couple more production numbers while you're at it, too, although I don't care if I ever see Randy Newman perform another nominated song ever again, even if he did write it!

I don't much care who wins or loses anymore. I got over that the year you had to choose between Meryl Streep in SOPHIE'S CHOICE and Jessica Lange in FRANCES. Puleeze...how to you do that?!! I do wonder how it is possible that the best actor of her generation, Kate Winslet, has FIVE nominations (most for anyone by the age of thirty-one; that's even more than Meryl!) and ZERO wins. But then Sidney Lumet doesn't have an Oscar either. Or Fred Astaire, Richard Burton, Montgomery Clift, Glenn Close, Kirk Douglas, Garbo and Gish, Madeline Kahn, Cary Grant, Deborah Kerr, Alfred Hitchcock OR GENA ROWLANDS (how did she NOT win for A WOMAN UNDER THE INFLUENCE, anyway???), among others. That's pretty good company, Kate, no matter the common bond.

Okay, I hear you. The Oscars are old news! As is the Super Bowl. I suspect that the honorary Oscar the Academy owes Doris Day will be as elusive again next year as the Eagles' chances of getting to the big game. That's worth a little Academy trashing, at least, so somebody get on that, okay? Happy Spring!!! And, thanks to Marilyn, Sydney, Sandy and Becca for doing such a great job with BLONDE BOMBSHELL!!!

## MUHLBERG STUDENTS BACK GENDER NEUTRAL HOUSING

Muhlenberg College Student Council has unanimously voted in favor of a resolution encouraging gender neutral housing on campus. The resolution was introduced on Thursday, March 15 by Student Council Vice President, Rachel Rosenberg '07 on behalf of the Gay Straight Alliance on campus.

"This unanimous vote is representative of the very broad student support for equality and gender neutral housing at Muhlenberg College," said GSA co-president Adrian Shanker.

The proposal is now being sent to Dean of Students, Karen Green, who along with a committee, will continue researching the best solution for gender neutral housing at Muhlenberg. Muhlenberg's GSA has been working diligently with the Washington-based Gender Public Advocacy Coalition and the National Student Genderblind Housing Campaign on researching the process at other schools. The final decision will be one of the Board of Trustees. The GSA Board sincerely hopes that this is completed by the Fall 2007 Board of Trustees Meeting.

## SPECIAL EVENT!

## READING PRIDE FUNDRAISER

Reading Pride presents - An Evening at Striling: A Celebration of Pride and Diversity on May 20, at the Striling Guest Hotel, 1120 Centre Avenue in Reading, from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The event will feature food and drink, to be followed by a concert given by: Danny Coldren, a pianist who is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and had his Weil recital debut at Carnegie Hall in 1996. Vocals will be performed by: Ira Leighton, a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music and Scott Tiergrossi, a graduate of Mansfield University. Matt Emkey, also performing on piano, is the featured organist for the Germantown United Methodist Church and a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Reading Pride is extremely happy to have Liz Bradbury, Executive Director of Pennsylvania Diversity Network (PDN) who will be presenting the Berks County debut of the PDN Photo Project: 100 Same Sex Couples Facing Inequality on exhibition at the event. Same-sex Couples wishing to participate in the Photo Project will be able to have their pictures taken at the event. For more information about the Photo Project see [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org).

This is a fundraiser event for Reading Pride to support the Reading Pride Festival on July 15. Ticket price for the event is \$25.00 For tickets and info call: 610 375-8209 or email: [RB1502@aol.com](mailto:RB1502@aol.com). All proceeds benefit Reading Pride.

For information on the Reading Pride Festival, or to help with the planning of the festival email: [readingpride@gmail.com](mailto:readingpride@gmail.com).

## READING PRIDE THANKS...

...the Red Star Saloon for Reading Pride's 1st fundraiser on December 9th, 2006. The theme of the night was "Mexican Night," with tacos & Mexican meat pies as the featured menu, all donated by committee member Mary Gomez. In addition to the delicious offerings, there was also a 50/50 raffle. Total amount raised that night was \$205. Then on February 10th, The Red Star hosted the 2nd Reading Pride fundraiser with a Dutch Platter theme, all food items were donated by various committee members. There was also a 50/50 raffle on this night. Total amount raised was \$260.50

The next Pride planning meeting will be held on April 2nd @ 7pm at Cana Street Publ, located at 535 Canal St, Reading.

## MCC EASTER SERVICES & EVENTS

### MORNING SERVICES AT 10AM

### EVENING SERVICES AT 6PM

Palm Sunday, April 1, Scripture Reading: Luke 19:28-40 Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "A Time To Shout" Liturgical Color: Purple

Holy Thursday Foot Washing Service, April 5, Scripture Reading: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "Servanthood" Liturgical Color: Purple

Good Friday, April 6, Scripture Reading: Psalm 22 Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "Deliver Us!" Liturgical Color: Black

Easter Sunday, April 8 at 9am - Easter Egg Hunt! Open to kids 12 and under.

Easter Sunday, April 8, Scripture Reading: Luke 24:1-12 Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "Turning Idleness to Activism" Liturgical Color: White/Gold

The first U.S. military personnel wounded in the Iraq war, retired Marine Staff Sgt. Eric Alva, came out as a gay man in March and is speaking out against Don't Ask Don't Tell.



# 6 CALENDAR

**Am Haskalah**, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Services at Allentown JCC at 22nd and Tilghman Streets, <http://www.jrf.org/amhaskala>, 610-435-3775

**ACCO-A Chorus** Celebrating Women, **AIDS Outreach**-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424

**AIDSWALK**- see **FACT**

**ASC**-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701

**BGMSG** - Berk's County Gay Men's Social Group -- singles and couples social events [berksgmsg@aol.com](mailto:berksgmsg@aol.com)

**BMA**- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360

**CIVIC** and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St., 610-432-8943, <[civictheater.com](mailto:civictheater.com)>

**CUUPS** -- Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans every 4th Sunday at noon at the UUCLV, [uucv\\_cuups@yahoo.com](mailto:uucv_cuups@yahoo.com).

**Enigma Players**-- [qacres@prolog.net](mailto:qacres@prolog.net)

**equal@agere** - email: [equal@agere.com](mailto:equal@agere.com)

**FACT**- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519

**GaydarMagazine** -- [www.gaydarmagazine.com](http://www.gaydarmagazine.com)

**GLEE** at Air Products

**GLISN** - at Dun & Bradstreet, <[vagrathollow.com/GLISN/](mailto:vagrathollow.com/GLISN/)>

**GLORA**- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown [www.glora.1colony.com](http://www.glora.1colony.com), [glora@dejazzed.com](mailto:glora@dejazzed.com)

**GLOSS** - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, [www.gloss.org](http://www.gloss.org) Info@[gloss.org](mailto:gloss.org)

**GLOW**-at PPL

**HAVEN GLBT Youth Group** of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: [havennyouthgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:havennyouthgroup@hotmail.com)

**HMFF**-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

**Integrity**- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 [gamba.guy@verizon.net](mailto:gamba.guy@verizon.net)

**Infoline** - Greater LV GLBT Infoline: 610-HELPI23 (445-7123) M-F 6pm -9pm Office: 610-432-5449 [info@padiversity.org](mailto:info@padiversity.org)

**INTERWEAVE** -- GLBTAI group at the UUCLV, 3rd Sundays.. Interweave UUCLV@[yahoodgroups.com](mailto:yahoodgroups.com), [www.uucvpa.org](http://www.uucvpa.org) 610-866-7652

**LVGMC** -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: [info@lvmgc.org](mailto:info@lvmgc.org), <[www.lvmgc.org](http://www.lvmgc.org)> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Tues.-Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

**Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition**- 610-610-997-0976, [humanrights4all@aol.com](mailto:humanrights4all@aol.com), 610-814-0530 [JamesHalleman@aol.com](mailto:JamesHalleman@aol.com)

**MCC** - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, [mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com), <http://www.mccclv.org> 610-709-8800

**Muhlenberg GSA** Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244

**NCC**- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 610-767-0296

**19th St & Civic Theatre** - 610.432.8943

**Out There**- Students at Cedar Crest College

**PA-Diversity Network**- 610-432-5449 [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org) PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

**PA-GALA** - Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance, (Candidate Guide, & Political Lobbying) P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610-863-0227 [www.pa-gala.org](http://www.pa-gala.org)

**PARENTS**- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519 Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 [www.eastern-pa-pflag.org](http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org)

## APRIL 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 MCC HMFF GLOSS WDIY	2 RAA 19th St. Movie <b>PHOTO PROJ AT CIVIC</b>	3 LV PFLAG LVGMC	4 HAVEN PRIDE BEN AT CIVIC TEJAS	5 RAA GLOSS	6 MCC 19th St. Movie TH CONFERENCE	7 GLOSS WDIY <b>PHOTO PROJ AT CIVIC</b>
8 WDIY UUCV HMFF <b>MCC EASTER</b>	9 RAA 19th St. Movie	10 LVGMC <b>PHOTO PROJ AT CIVIC</b>	11 SPECTRUM TEJAS	12 RAA FACT MEETING GLOSS	13 <b>PHOTO PROJ AT CIVIC</b> 19th St. Movie	14 GLOSS WDIY <b>GLORA</b>
15 MCC GLOSS WDIY HMFF MCC	16 RAA 19th St. Movie <b>PDN Photo Project</b>	17 R PFLAG LVGMC	18 HAVEN M PFLAG SPECTRUM	19 RAA P PFLAG	20	21 WDIY GLOSS 19th St. Movie <b>GLORA</b>
22 GLOSS UUCV MCC Interweave	23 <b>PHOTO PROJ AT CIVIC</b> 19th St. Movie LVGMC	24	25 TEJAS HAVEN SPECTRUM	26 RAA GLOSS 19th St. Movie	27 19th St. Movie	28 WDIY GLOSS <b>GABELLIN ART SHOW FACT FAIR</b>
29 WDIY UUCV HMFF CUUPS GLOSS MCC	30 RAA					

## MAY 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 LVGMC LV PFLAG	2 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	3 RAA GLOSS	4	5 WDIY GLOSS <b>HAVEN PROM</b>
6 GLOSS UUCV MCC HMFF	7 RAA	8 LVGMC	9 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	10 RAA GLOSS	11	12 GLOSS WDIY
13 WDIY UUCV MCC HMFF	14 RAA	15 LVGMC R PFLAG	16 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	17 GLOSS RAA P PFLAG	18 <b>ETTY BUCKLEY AT CIVIC</b>	19 WDIY GLOSS
20 Interweave Reading <b>PRIDE Fundraiser PDN Photo Project</b>	21 RAA	22 LVGMC	23 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	24 RAA GLOSS	25	26 WDIY GLOSS <b>FACT FAIR</b>
27 GLOSS HMFF MCC UUCV	28 RAA	29 LVGMC	30 HAVEN SPECTRUM	31 GLOSS RAA		

## JUNE 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 GLOSS <b>GMCHORUS CON</b> WDIY
3	4 RAA 19th St. Movie	5 LV PFLAG LVGMC	6 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	7 GLOSS RAA	8	9 WDIY GLOSS
10 UUCV GLOSS MCC 19th St. Movie HMFF WDIY	11 RAA	12 LVGMC	13 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	14 RAA GLOSS	15 19th St. Movie	16 GLOSS WDIY
17 Interweave GLOSS MCC 19th St. Movie WDIY UUCV	18 RAA	19 R PFLAG LVGMC	20 HAVEN SPECTRUM M PFLAG TEJAS	21 RAA GLOSS P PFLAG	22 <b>FACT @ WOODS</b>	23 GLOSS WDIY 19th St. Movie
24 MCC 19th St. Movie	25 RAA	26 LVGMC 19th St. Movie	27 HAVEN TEJAS SPECTRUM	28 GLOSS RAA 19th St. Movie	29 19th St. Movie	30 GLOSS WDIY

**PDN Photo Project in Central Sussquehanna Valley**



**PFLAG** - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 www.eastern-pa-pflag.org  
**Pride** - Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <info@prideglv.org>, <www.prideglv.org>  
**Progressive Students Alliance** - www.lehigh.edu/~inpstua/ypsawhatpsa.htm  
**QuEST** - Student group at Lafayette College  
**Quakers** - Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting - Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA. Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.  
**RAA** - Rainbow AA meetings Monday & Thursdays, 7:30p. 2nd flr Church of the Mediator - 1620 Turner St. Allentown, AA Hotline: 610-882-0558.  
**Rainbow Families** - donnearlucas@msn.com  
**Ren** - Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., Meets at MCLV renlv.org  
**Reading P-FLAG** - 610-967-5219  
**Safe Space** - At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973  
**Spectrum** -- LGBTQA Teen Group, Planned Parenthood, 48 South 4th Street, Reading PA 610-376-0137  
**Temple Sophia**, Interfaith Sanctuary 117 E Ridge St., Coaldale 18218 570-657-6447 Pastor: Rt. Rev. Tom Cormier  
**T.O.** - Theatre Outlet, Allentown, 610-820-9270.  
**UUCLV** - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652  
**VGP** - Valley Gay Press, 610.432.5449, VGP@padiversity.org VGP PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley PA 18002 www.padiversity.org  
**Wachovia-GALEA** - Gay and Lesbian Employee Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com  
**WDIY** - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm. 8100.88.

## SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Rainbow AA - MON & THURS**  
**Berks GSA - 2ND MONS**  
**LVGMC REHEARSALS - TUESDAYS**  
**LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS**  
**READING - PFLAG 3RD TUES**  
**MCC TEJAS WOMANS GRP - WEDS**  
**LV HAVEN - WEDS**  
**READING SPECTRUM - WEDS**  
**MONROE PFLAG - 3RD WEDS**  
**JAN MAR JUN SEPT DEC ONLY**  
**POTTSVILLE PFLAG - 3RD THURS**  
**GLOSS RAC-BALL - THURS & SAT**  
**GLOSS BOWLING - 2ND FRI**  
**GLOSS PINOCCHIO - 2ND SAT**  
**RENAISSANCE - 2ND SAT**  
**INTERWEAVE - 3RD SUNDAYS**  
**MCLV MENS GRP - SUN**

**MAR 29-APR 1 - MUHLENBERG DANCE-TEATER**  
**MAR 31-APR 23 - PDN PHOTO PROJECT @ CIVIC**  
**MAR 31-APR 8 - 19TH ST**  
**APR 1 - FACT BENEFIT**  
**APR 4 - MCC PAID MUNDAY**  
**APR 4 - PRIDE FUNDRAISER**  
**APR 5 - MCC FOOT WASHING**  
**APR 5-7 - TRANS HEALTH CONF**  
**APR 6 - MCC GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APR 7-15 - 19TH ST**  
**APR 8 - MCC EGG HUNT**  
**APR 8 - MCC HAVEN PROM**  
**APR 12 - FACT COMMUNITY MTG**  
**APR 14 - GLORA**  
**APR 18 - TEJAS**  
**APR 21 - GLORA**  
**APR 28 - GABELLINI ART SHOW**  
**APR 28 - FACT HEALTH FAIR**  
**MAY 5 - HAVEN PROM**  
**MAY 18 - BETTY BUCKLEY @ CIVIC**  
**MAY 20 - READING FUNDRAISER**  
**JUN 2 - LVGMC CONCERT**  
**JUN 22-24 FACT @ THE WOODS**  
**JUNE 24-30 PHOTO PROJ. @ GLBTACS**  
**JUL 15 - READING PRIDE**  
**JUL 27-29 - GAME WREND**  
**AUG 16 - SEPT 1 - OMICRON @ TO**  
**AUG 19 - GLV PRIDE**  
**SEPT 9 - FACT SUMMER GAMES**

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!  
 TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449  
 INFO@PADIVERSITY.ORG

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE FOR GAY LUTHERAN PASTOR ASKS NATIONAL CHURCH TO CHANGE DOCUMENTS

By Nadine Anderson

It was widely reported in February that the disciplinary committee trying Lutheran Pastor Bradley Schmeling of Atlanta for being in a committed relationship with another man voted to remove him from the ministry in August. What was not reported was that in an unprecedented move, that same committee asked the national Lutheran church (ELCA) to change the documents requiring the defrocking and said how to do that. The committee stated that by the standards in the constitution and bylaws "they would find almost unanimously that Pastor Schmeling is not engaged in conduct that is incompatible with the ministerial office, and would find with near unanimity that no discipline of any sort should be imposed against him." However, two policy documents specifically say a person in a sexual relationship with a same sex person is ineligible for the ministry, so they voted 7-5 to defrock Rev. Schmeling.

The disciplinary committee has asked the national church to remove the parts of these policy documents that make a "practicing homosexual" ineligible for the ministry as they say it is "at least bad policy and may very well violate the constitution of this church." Change

can be done through a national committee of the church or through regional meetings asking the national meeting in August to make the changes.

The discipline committee has asked that both be done. There will probably be discussion and votes on this at the regional meetings April through June and at the national meeting in August.

The discipline committee has affirmed Pr. Schmeling's ministry at St. John's Lutheran Church, Atlanta, finding as a fact that the congregation has flourished in membership, attendance at worship, and giving during his service. They also note that he has a gift for working with children and is an "incredibly gifted" pastor whose congregation wants him to stay.

The full 14 page document giving the discipline committee's decision and a summary of the decision are available on the web page of St. John's, Atlanta (stjohnsatlanta.org, click on Trial Update). (Nadine Anderson is a Lehigh Valley activist.)

## TRANS-HEALTH CONFERENCE

The 6th Annual Philadelphia Trans-health Conference: Educate, Empower, Embrace is set for April 5, 6 and 7 and is packed with a variety of events. Questions about the conference in general? Contact: joeipolito@comcast.net.

## RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

### ENTERTAINMENTWORTHYOUR\$\$\$

**Music** - There is some really great music coming out of the UK right now. Mika's Living in Cartoon Motion has been called the "gayest CD out there" by Details magazine and Blender calls it "the CD we're the most gay for right now". LCMC's first single, Grace Kelly, has already scaled the British charts and is just starting to get play here in the US. Mika's music is a scorching blend of Freddie Mercury meets the Scissor Sisters. Perfect summer disc. I love him! Amy Winehouse is a white, multi-tattooed, beehive sporting, baddest of bad girls blessed with the pipes of Etta James. Her first single from Back to Black exclaims "They try to make me to go to Rehab... I said no, no, no". This is a raucous confession from a woman who looks to be around for awhile. I hope they never get her to check into rehab. The View is not a new rock quartet made up of Rosie, Bamba and the gals from the 10AM gabfest, but rather a garage punk/pop-ish sounding band that sings about wearing "the same jeans on for four days now and going to a disco in the middle of town". Hats Off to Buskers is their disc and along with the other two get 4 stars from me and will keep you smiling through your housework, gym workout or cruising with the top down.

**Movies** - Most films are released on DVD only a couple months after their theatrical release so I'll combine them here. Borat. Though not as funny as when seen with an audience, this still plays well on the small screen. Niiiiice. If you like your historical war epics sepia toned, CGI infused and with lots (and lots) of half naked warriors, 300 is the movie for you. Dead Silence was a cut above most recent horror flicks with a genuine surprise ending. My bf jumped and gasped along with the rest of the audience. Good acting and a script whipped from pure saccharin help make The Holiday the perfect cuddle-up-for-a-cozy-night-in movie. Disturbingly unsatisfactory in its finale, Zodiac is a taut, well-acted... oh who cares, Jake Gyllenhaal's in it. You'll see it. For something totally original catch a neurotic Emma Thompson and subdued Will Farrell in Stranger Than Fiction.

**And, finally**, run don't walk to Best Buy, cuz Norman Lear's classic, Maude, starring Golden Girl Bea Arthur, is at long last available on DVD. For the record, six commas in one sentence is the new world's record.

**FYI** - If you want to catch my boyfriend's (and 6 other guys') bare ass(es), check out Love! Valour! Compassion! at the Civic Theatre, running through April 21st. And, if you're interested in what playwright, Terrence McNally or director, Bill Sanders has to say about that production pick up the new issue of Gaydar Magazine. The Spring issue also features interviews with Linda Eder, John Waters, American Idol finalists Katherine McPhee and Jim Verraros, Billie Meyers with articles on the PDN Photo Project, Abe Lincoln, Chippendales and much more. For more info write me at gaydarmagazine@hotmail.com





### Public Parental Confusion...Really, He's My Son

This saga is never ending. Unfortunately, for me, most people do not think Lucas is my son when Donnie and I are together. Donnie is always told that Lucas has his eyes. Donnie usually tells people that Lucas has his nose too, which is totally untrue. One of them has a cute button nose and the other one has well a ...nose. We'll let it at that. But, when I am alone, people do assume that Lucas is my biological son. It is then that I can bask in the glory of all the compliments that Lucas receives... how cute he is... how curly his hair is... how beautiful his eyes are... how tan his complexion is. This only happens when I am totally alone with Lucas.

If I happen to have one of my female friends with me, everyone assumes she is the mother. This happens when Lucas and I get together weekly with my friend Janine and her son Chase, so the kids can play together and hopefully develop a nice friendship. We have had play dates at our houses and adventures at kid friendly establishments such as Jungle Fun. We enjoy places where the kids can burn off some of their energy. Other parents at these places are fairly friendly as their children interact and play with ours. As Janine and I were at Jungle Fun a friendly mother had asked Janine, "Is that your son?", referring to Lucas. She proceeded to say that he was gorgeous and looked like he should be in ads for the Gap. Another mother came up to her and said how handsome her son was, again referring to Lucas, and that he could be a model. Then at the concession stand a mother asked Janine if the cute one was hers. Meanwhile she has little Chase in tow, but somehow it's as if they entered the twilight zone and he isn't really there anymore. I feared that Janine would no longer want to accompany us anywhere in public anymore, but these episodes didn't really bother her at all.

So what really is the underlying point I am trying to make with this story? It could be one of three things: My friend Janine is much more attractive than I (she is), or maybe I don't look old enough to have child (I wish), or those visits to the salon, tanning booth, and gym with Lucas have really made a difference, now he just needs an agent (ok they didn't make that much of a difference, Donnie and I still look the same).



**PLANET PARENTHOOD COLUMNISTS  
DONNIE AND EARL SNYDER, LEAD  
RAINBOW FAMILIES, THE GROUP FOR  
GLBTA FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN. READ  
ABOUT IT IN THE RAINBOW FAMILIES  
SECTION OF PA DIVERSITY NETWORK'S  
WEB SITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG.**

### GLBTA CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA

The gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied group of Central Susquehanna Valley (gltacsv), an organization started by former local activists Robert Rousch and Steve Olsson, has begun regular meetings and events. The gltacsv will be hosting the PDN Photo Project in the last week of June in a Central Susquehanna venue. To learn more about gltacsv visit their web site at [www.gltacsv.org](http://www.gltacsv.org).

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## RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

### THOUGHTSON HOW TO RUIN YOUR RETIREMENT

Want to retire in poverty and live a life of penury? Here are four good ways to get started (and one great solution for those who choose to become wealthy instead).

#### Road to Ruin No. 1: Trust Uncle Sam.

If you want to be certain you'll spend your golden years dining on ramen noodles and white bread, put your faith in Social Security. Putnam Investments recently conducted a study of median income levels among retirees. Of the \$34,000 your average retiree collects every year, Social Security provides just 41%--\$13,940. Pensions and other defined-benefit plans add some more, but even with their help, "retirees" find they need to work part-time to scrape by.

**Solution:** Social Security is designed to supplement your income. You need to do your part. Of course, not being married, both individuals need to generate an income to be eligible for a Social Security supplement, at all.

#### Road to Ruin No. 2: Spend too much; save too little.

Curious how the other 59% breaks down? It goes like this--24% comes from defined-benefit pension plans and 24% more from part-time jobs. And here is the kicker: The average American can fund only 11% of retirement needs from personal savings. Of course, with our national savings rate hovering around 0%, that should come as no surprise.

**Solution:** Spend less, save more. If you can increase your savings by just \$84 per month (\$1,000 a year) and grow that nest egg at the stock market's average historical rate of 10.5% per annum, in 20 years' time you'll have \$45,285 to supplement your Social Security income. And that's factoring in an inflation rate of 3%.

#### Road to Ruin No. 3: Buy high; sell low.

Of course, that 10.5% is just the average return on stocks. The best way to ruin your portfolio's performance: Buy hot stocks and mutual funds. Then, when they crash—as they inevitably do—sell in a panic. "Chasing performance" in one year is almost certain to cost you in subsequent years.

**Solution:** Avoid the crowds that gather around "hot" industries with historically high P/E ratios. Buy undervalued companies, even—especially—when they operate in boring industries. Some of the least exciting stocks back in 2000, are making good money today.

#### Road to Ruin No. 4: Procrastinate

Most Americans age 55 and older don't even have \$45,000 saved up for retirement. In fact, excluding their home equity, the median net worth of retirement-age Americans is closer to \$30,000—which explains why their savings suffice to fund only 11% of their living costs.

**Solution:** Start investing earlier, and save more. If you can save twice the \$84 mentioned above, and start just five years earlier, that \$168 invested monthly over 25 years will more than triple your nest egg, giving you at least \$142,319 by retirement (again, in today's dollars). Take control and achieve your destiny.

Denise McKelvey is a financial advisor for Ameriprise Financial located at 1045 S Cedar Crest Blvd. E-mail [denise.m.mckelvey@ampf.com](mailto:denise.m.mckelvey@ampf.com).

## PEACE RALLY WELL ATTENDED

The concert/rally to end the War against Iraq, organized by Muhlenberg student Adrian Shanker, took place in March and got great media coverage. A number of local clergy and activists spoke, including Rev. Beth Goudy. 120 people took part.



## GABELLINI ART SHOW EVENT

Don't miss the fabulous art show opening on Saturday, April 29, beginning at 6:30pm, at Gabellini Design, 1952 Allen St., Allentown. Hors d'oeuvres, wine, friends and fun. The Photo Project will be in the gallery until May 19, artist's work will stay in the gallery through mid June. The show and opening reception to benefit PA Diversity Network will feature the PDN Photo Show -100-Same-sex Couples: Facing Inequality and these GLBT community artists:  
**Elizabeth Patterson** -- will be exhibiting limited addition signed prints of her original colored pencil drawings.

Originally from Pennsylvania, Elizabeth Patterson earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Minneapolis College of Art and Design and relocated to the Los Angeles area in 1979. Since early childhood, she has worked in numerous mediums with a strong proclivity for graphite and color pencil rendering. Patterson continues to expand her subject matter in her chosen medium of color pencil. Her work was the subject of a major article in the Advocate magazine in 2005.

**Liz Bradbury** -- will be presenting a new series of box framed erotic images with assemblage found-object elements.

Liz Bradbury has worked in a variety of media over the last thirty years, including drawing, woodworking and neon glass sculptures. Her prize winning art works have been exhibited in venues throughout the country, including juried, group and solo shows. Her recent works deals with handcolored altered nude images from original photographs and vintage or antique prints. Bradbury holds Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Maryland Institute of Art and a Master's of Fine Art degree from Indiana State University.

**Dianne Poindexter** -- brings to the show oil paintings from her latest series featuring vivid imagery of the Amalfi Coast highlighting the rich and vibrant colors of the Mediterranean Sea.

Dianne Poindexter is a painter who creates large scale colorful works that include oils, acrylics and pen and ink washes. Her paintings are realistic and the technique she adds to the surface recalls translucent layers of glazed colors. Poindexter's work has been shown throughout the country & can be found in several private & corporate collections. She received the Outstanding Community Service Award in the Lehigh Valley for a Mural donated to the Children's Center at Crime Victims Council & a scholarship from Art Forms Gallery in Manyunk, PA.

Poindexter is originally from Arizona and moved to Philadelphia, PA., to attend Moore College of Art & Design graduating with a BFA in Painting & Sculpture. She now works and resides in Bethlehem.

**Rafael Canizares** -- makes hand-coiled clay vessels. His work for this show is part of a new series.

Rafael Canizares is a ceramics sculptor who has been featured in a variety of major shows and collections. He had a solo show of his hand built bottle sculptures at the Allentown Art Museum in 2003. His work in that show were bottles as large as six feet and as small as six inches with patterned surface decorations.

Canizares holds a BFA from Bloomsburg University and a Master's of Fine Art degree from the Cranbrook Academy of Art. He lives in Allentown and maintains a studio in the Silkworks building.

**Peter Lewnes** -- brings to the show glass pieces created in the swedish technique of graal which uses different color overlays that are sandblasted and further hotworked.

Peter Lewnes, originally from Jersey City, NJ primarily uses glass as a medium. He is interested mostly in glass blowing and mosaic created with stained glass. Having moved into Allentown three years ago, his focus is in setting up studio/gallery space in Center City Allentown and supporting the arts community.

**Karl Howard** -- creates representational and nonrepresentational wire sculpture, occasionally using found objects to enhance forms.

As a nationally known artist, Howard has been making & exhibiting his wire form sculptures for over 30 years. His work has been featured in many shows and galleries. He attended the Philadelphia College of Art from 19964 to 1968. He lives in Bethlehem.

## VALLEY GAY PRESS

web site: [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org)

**Publisher, Managing Editor** -- Liz Bradbury  
**Publisher, Editor** -- Patricia Sullivan  
**Columnists:** Liz Bradbury, Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKelvey, Donnie Snyder, Earl Snyder, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner, Sue Sneeringer and others

**Valley Gay Press - The Lehigh Valley and Berks County's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community Opinion and Newspaper (VGP)**  
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**Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley**

1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown 610-709-8800

**PFLAG Allentown, Reading and Pottsville** -- see meeting schedule

**Pride House** at Muhlenberg College, Allentown

**19th Street Theater** -- 527 N 19th St. Allentown

**Lehigh Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (UUCLV)**

-- 424 Center St., Bethlehem

**Haven GLBTA Youth Group** at UUCLV

**Theatre Outlet**, 930 N. 4th St. Allentown

**Most Libraries in Berks County**

**Planned Parenthood NEPA** 48 S. 4th St. Reading

**Easy Does It Clubhouse (Berks County), Berks -**

**Reading GSA**

**Allen HS GSA, Reading HS GSA, Gov Milfin HS GSA**

**Wilson High School GSA, Berks AIDS Network**

**Berks Mens Social Group, Kutztown University**

**GLBT Center**

**Reading Area Community College GSA**

48 S. 4th St., Reading

### Businesses that have VGP's for hand-out distribution:

**Diamondz Nightclub** -- 1913 W. Broad St., Bethlehem

**Stonewall Bar** -- 28-30 N. 10th St., Allentown

**Candida's** -- 247 N. 12th St., Allentown

**Hava Java Coffee Shop** -- N. 19th St. Allentown

**Fountainhead Books** -- 641 Penn Ave. West Reading

**Dreamscape Comics** -- 310 W. Broad St., Bethlehem

**The Woods Campground**

**Red Star Saloon** -- 11 S. 10th St, Reading

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**To Contact Valley Gay Press:**

Mail to: PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

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## PA DIVERSITY NETWORK MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

**PLEASE PAY YOUR 2007 MEMBERSHIP DUES.** Membership to PA Diversity Network, which brings you a 2007 subscription to the Valley Gay Press, is just \$15 for an individual membership and \$20 for a family membership.

PA Diversity Network is a not-for-profit volunteer driven organization which supports the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender community of the Greater Lehigh Valley and Berks County.

PDN's projects include: The Valley Gay Press, The GLBT Infoline, the PDN Resource Web Site, the PDN Photo Project -- 100 Same-sex Couples and Rainbow Families. PDN also fights individual instances of discrimination on a case by case basis, does presentations to organizations, educational institutions and businesses on GLBT issues, and brings the community entertaining and fun activities like special concert events, art shows, community action opportunities, Bingo, and participation with other organizations.

PDN exists and functions financially in great part on contributions and memberships from people like you. Please become a 2007 member of PDN and further support PDN with a contribution. PDN is a 501(c)3 tax deductible organization.

## CIRCULATE YOUR GROUP'S INFO

VGP is a free way for GLBTA friendly groups and organizations to get their information to hundreds of people in the Greater Lehigh Valley and Berks County. If you represent a pro-GLBT group or organization, or if you would like to start one, email PA Diversity Network (info@padiversity.org) or call the PDN offices at 610-432-5449 to find out how to list and circulate information about your group. It's free.

## MUHLENBERG DANCE/ THEATER WORK DEALS WITH AIDS ISSUES

CORPS, an original dance-theatre work conceived by Chris Shepard '07, blends movement and text in an exploration of what it is that decides who we are as compared to how we are remembered. Inspired by the life and death of Patient Zero and the storytelling of "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner," CORPS reveals a haunting and evocative examination of the relationship between infection and stories as the legacies we leave behind. Directed and choreographed by Chris Shepard '07, with costumes by Annie Simon '05 and set and lighting design by Lily Fossner, the work unveils a world-a sea-where the infamous figures still remembered in this world reside. The criminals, the villains, the artists all sail on this sea for, as far as they know, an eternity. It is this sea that CORPS examines.

CORPS is onstage in the Studio Theatre of the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre & Dance from March 29 to April 1. Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and seniors, \$8 for teens and youth. The box office in the Trexler Pavilion is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 484-664-3333. Tickets are also available online at [www.muhlenberg.edu/tickets](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/tickets).





## LIZ OUT LOUD<sup>©</sup> 11

### LV HOSPITAL - PART 2 *By Liz Bradbury*

Last month, Trish wrote an article about Lehigh Valley Hospital and Fortune magazine. LVH's new 100 Best Places to Work designation relied in part on a 'yes' answer to the question: Does your business have a non-discrimination policy that includes sexual orientation. LVH answered yes, but the equal employment opportunity statement on LVH's internet web site didn't have it.

It said: LVH is an equal opportunity employer - In accordance with federal, state and local equal employment opportunity regulations, the Lehigh Valley Health Network will provide employment opportunities to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability. All personnel actions and programs will adhere to this policy. Personnel actions and programs include, but are not limited to, recruitment, selection, hiring, transfers, promotions, terminations, compensation, benefits, educational programs and social activities, disability or other such protected classes as may be defined by law. (Besides the lack of the words 'sexual orientation', this statement has two other problems. Can you see them?)

After last month's VGP came out, we received more than a dozen emails and phone calls from LVH employees with concerns about LVH's non-discrimination policy (and lack of benefits). Two employees mentioned that the hospital's "intra" net information web shows one version of the above non-discrimination statement that DOES include the words sexual orientation in the list of classes.

The great news is that I was finally able to speak to an upper level person in the Human Resources Department of LVH who told me that it was simply a mistake that sexual orientation was not listed in the public web site policy, and that the words would be added immediately.

I went on to explain the two other problems with the statement. The most serious is the caveat, "In accordance with federal, state and local law," this is a dangerous qualifier, because since there is no federal or state law that protects people from discrimination based on sexual orientation, and since only the small part of LVH that is in Allentown is governed by a local law that includes sexual orientation, the policy really doesn't offer protection. It's just a statement saying the hospital will follow laws that every other employer in the United States has to follow. I also pointed out that the last line of the above statement is a typo - the words after the comma belong at the end of the classes of protected people, not at the end of the line about personnel actions and programs.

Nice to be speaking with someone who really listened and seemed to understand. I was told the typo would be fixed, and the statement would also be changed to include: In accordance with and in addition to federal, state and local law -- before this VGP comes out. So check the LVH web site and see if all the changes have been made: <http://www.lvh.org/lvh/Careers> 1183. (By the way, I asked about adding gender identity to the statement. "Not at this time," was the response.)

Note that the above statement includes the word...benefits. While LVH does not give domestic partner benefits at this time, the proposed update to the non-discrimination policy seems to "intend" to extend equal benefits. So this may be another rung up the ladder to that goal.

If 1000 employees told LVH it should have same-sex partner benefits, then the hospital would worry that the cost of those benefits would be high. Which is not true, the cost is zero. What's true is: GLBT and allied LVH employees want to be working at a place that offers equal benefits whether they have a same-sex partner or not, or whether they will ever use them or not. Because the option of family health insurance is important to everyone. That's what makes a good place to work.

## TRISH'S COLUMN<sup>©</sup>

*By Patricia Sullivan*

### YOU WERE WRONG THEN, AND YOU'RE WRONG NOW



The 2007 Soulforce Equality Ride is going to thirty-two colleges and universities that ban the enrollment of GLBT individuals based upon teaching from the perspective of biblical literalism and that spread the dangerous notion that homosexuality is a sickness and a sin. I have personal knowledge of one, Montreat, a Presbyterian college in western North Carolina. So when the President of Montreat wrote alumni a letter warning of the Soulforce visit, I wrote him back the following:

Dear Dr. Struble:

When I attended Montreat ('65) it was a segregated college. During my sophomore year an African-American student was admitted, but she was not permitted to live in a college dormitory, because she was African-American. I and many of my classmates would have happily shared a room with this young woman, but she had to attend classes as a day student living off campus. While many excuses may be offered for this racist decision, it was discrimination then and it would be discrimination now. Though today, Montreat permits African American students to live on campus and fully participate in college programming, the institution still practices discrimination against people like me.

After graduating from Montreat-Anderson College, I continued my education and ultimately received my Ed. D. from Teachers College of Columbia University. Along with my personal and professional successes I have continued to experience discrimination in employment and public accommodation based solely upon my sexual orientation. I have received hate mail in the name of Jesus and have also experienced spiritual abuse by self described "Christians" who directed slurs at me from the steps of a church. These Christians choose to interpret the teachings of Christ as exclusive rather than inclusive and in every instance they believed they were entitled to do so because of "Christian Values" they learned from their religious mentors.

From the tenor of your letter to alumni about Soulforce's visit it seems that the Montreat Administration does not sincerely intend to have an open dialog. The views expressed in your letter are homophobic and fear mongering. It's a painful reminder not only of the intolerance gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people experience every day, but of the racist and fear mongering views against African-Americans in the past. Your arguments against the full acceptance of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons are not any different than the arguments espoused by those who felt African-Americans did not deserve full equality in the 60's. This past intolerance, based solely on ignorance, is an embarrassment to the institution of Montreat and to me as a graduate of that college. Montreat's current intolerance of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, based on the very same type of ignorance, is a profound embarrassment to me as a graduate, and will be an embarrassment in the future to Montreat unless positive steps are taken.

While it is true that when I arrived at Montreat-Anderson College I brought with me a strong Christian background, I can say without doubt that my experience at MAC was the pivotal influence that turned me away from organized religion. So, I urge you to consider this visit from Soulforce a God given opportunity to acknowledge that it is man who sinfully casts the stones of discrimination and that in the eyes of Jesus we are all children of God who deserve no less than equality in his eyes. At the very least, Montreat needs a non discrimination policy that includes "sexual orientation and gender identity." It would send a positive message to past and present students that Montreat's philosophy is truly one of inclusion and acceptance in the spirit of Jesus.



# POP QUIZ 12

- At the Oscars, Jody Foster lamented the death of casting director Randy Stone who was also the founder of the Trevor Project, a GLBT: A. suicide hotline B. youth group C. college GSA D. web site
- Though Waylon Flowers died of AIDS in the 80s, his best "friend" \_\_\_\_\_ appeared at Art Explosion in Ft. Lauderdale. A. Fozzy B. Madame C. Margot D. Chairy
- In March, when Suze Ormon was asked if she is married by a NY Times interviewer, she answered she was: A. in a 7 year relationship. B. partnered with Kathy Travis. C. with the co producer of her show. D. wants legal recognition of her partner.
- On Courtney Cox's new show "Dirt", Jennifer Aniston's guest character \_\_\_\_\_ Cox's. A. kisses B. marries C. slow dances with D. seduces
- In his new autobiography, film star Farley Granger mentions he slept with: A. Arthur Laurents B. Leonard Bernstein C. Barbara Stanwyck D. Ava Gardner
- Farley Granger's partner of 45 years, TV producer Robert Calhoun produced: A. As the World Turns B. Another World C. Guiding Light D. Falconcrest
- Re: The Hitchcock movie "Rope," (A) Farley Granger and (B) John Dall acted in it, (C) Arthur Laurents adapted the screen play and (D.) Alfred Hitchcock directed it. Which of them were GLBT?
- Playwright Charles Busch (Psycho Beach Party, Die Mommie Die) has a new play on Broadway, "Our Leading Lady." It stars: A. Kate Mulgrew B. Charles Busch C. Kathleen Turner D. Debra Messing
- Who wrote: Love! Valour! Compassion! ? A. Charles Busch B. Terrence McNally C. Jonathan Larson D. Jeff Marx
- What was the name of Karen's gay horse on Will & Grace? A. Maurice B. Stanley C. Mason D. Lamar

## VALLEY GAY PRESS BOOK REVIEW

**"Is it a Date of Just Coffee? By Mo Brownsey Alyson Books, \$13.95**

A step by step guide to "gay girls" dating, sex and romance. Just broke up or got dumped? You need this book, because good advice is better served with a side dish of laughs.

Mo Brownsey, long time comedian and lesbian studies college professor writes a humor filled book, packed with information lesbian and bisexual women really need. Speaking from vast experience, she starts right out with sage 'after-breakup' advice: Take her number off the speed dial! Then deftly covers: baby dykes (yes, they're too young for you), on-line dating (why it frequently doesn't work), the L-word (love), polyamory (not for Mo) and a host of other topics.

Brownsey is the kind of friend who'd not only grab you by the lapels and exclaim, "Snap out of it," but she'd explain how over pizza until you felt better. If don't have a friend like that, get this book.

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA Diversity Network

GLBT Infoline

PA-GALA

Rainbow Families

Valley Gay Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the GLV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater

19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley

Touchstone Theater

Congregation Am Shalom

The Lehigh Valley Progressive Students Alliance

The Consistory of St. Peter's UCC - Allentown

United Friends School Quakertown

LV Transsexual Coalition

To add your organization to this list, Contact VGP

## QUOTE #1

**Out New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn**, who boycotted the Big Apple's St. Patrick's Day parade over its refusal to allow LGBT groups to march, found a welcoming place among the Dublin City Council's contingent at Saturday's event in the Irish capital. "The fact I'm here in Dublin and able to march and participate in inclusive events should send a message of how backwards the New York parade is," Quinn said.

## QUOTE #2

"I'm an American who fought for his country and for the protection and the rights and freedoms of all American citizens -- not just some of them, but all of them," --Staff Sgt. Eric Alva, who lost his leg nearly four years ago when he stepped on a land mine. He was the first U.S. Marine to be seriously wounded in the Iraq conflict.

## QUOTE #3

"My partner of 13 years and I became legal spouses at a ceremony in the UK this past summer," Goble wrote. "My partner/spouse/husband has worked here legally under various visas for 10 these many years, but has only recently been offered a green card sponsorship from his company. ... If one of us was a woman, we would already have one." -- from a note by Kindall Goble, in Margie Peterson's MCall column in March

## QUOTE #4

"At any rate, our neighbors in Macungie are plenty nice to us out here as well. That means a lot, but being equal under the law would mean more." -- Gail Uhl, also quoted in Margie Peterson's MCall column in March

## QUOTE #5

"Also, Coulter seems to adore the public spotlight a little too much, a trait she abhors in liberals. Her public comments have become more and more strident in order to gain more and more attention. Her comment about Edwards accomplished her purpose - it got her name in the news." -- GARY SAWYER - Herald & Review Editor on reasons why they dropped Anne Coulter's column after her anti-gay slurs against John Edwards.

Distelfink © 3/07 by Ruby Zebu "R.I.P."

## Great Words From the Late Molly Irvins

I believe in practicing prudence at least once every two or three years.

Being slightly paranoid is like being slightly pregnant - it tends to get worse.

I have been attacked by Rush Limbaugh on the air, an experience somewhat akin to being gummied by a newt. It doesn't actually hurt, but leaves you with with slimy stuff on your ankle.

Next time I tell you someone from Texas should not be President of the United States, please pay attention.

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Gay Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VGP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.